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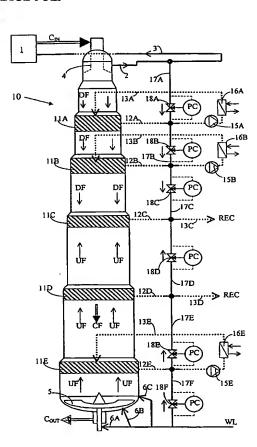
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KVAERNER PULPING AB [SE/SE]; Box 1033, S-651 15 Karlstad (SE).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): SNEKKENES, Vidar [NO/SE]; Herrhagsgatan 62, S-652 19 Karlstad (SE).

- (74) Agent: FURHEM, Hans; Kvaerner Pulping AB, Box 1033, S-651 15 Karlstad (SE).
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND A DIGESTER FOR THE CONTINUOUS COOKING OF WOOD RAW MATERIAL TO CELLULOSE PULP



(57) Abstract: The invention concerns a method for the continuous cooking of pulp and a digester. At least two withdrawal positions (11E, 11D) for cooking fluid are arranged at different heights in the digester (10). The cooking fluid in the first and second position is withdrawn after the chips has had a retention time that differs by at least 10 minutes, preferably at least 20 minutes. The differential pressure between the positions is determined and when this exceeds a pre-determined level, a connection (17E) opens between these positions, establishing a flow parallel to a flow of cooking fluid between these positions in the digester. Several withdrawal positions are preferably connected in a common shunt system (17A-17F), with values (18A-18F), controlled by the differential pressure, located between adjacent positions. The system allows increases in production capacity, washing efficiency and level of operation, with reduced risk for pulp hanging and channelling.



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### A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC7: D21C 3/24, D21C 7/14 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC7: D21C Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) **EPO-INTERNAL** C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category\* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. 1-20 Α US 4780181 A (LENNART G. LIND), 25 October 1988 (25.10.88), page 1, column 1, line 60 - column 2, line 11, figures 1,2 WO 9521961 A1 (KVAERNER PULPING TECHNOLOGIES AB), 1-20 A 17 August 1995 (17.08.95), figure 1 US 20020079071 A1 (VIDAR SNEKKENES ET AL), 1-20 A 27 June 2002 (27.06.02), figure 1 See patent family annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. Special categories of cited documents: later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier application or patent but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be filing date considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is step when the document is taken alone cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other being obvious to a person skilled in the art document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 17 -09- 2003 16 Sept 2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer **Swedish Patent Office** Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Marianne Bratsberg/ELY

Telephone No. + 46 8 782 25 00

Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

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